

Budget Ways & Means Committee
Monday, June 10, 2019 5:30 PM
City Hall Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alan Snow, Juan Topete, Darren Collier and Ray West.

OTHERS PRESENT: City Administrator Tom Short, City Clerk Traci Cox, Fire Chief Roger Williams, Council Member Ceri Otero and Jonathan Roberts for the Carthage Humane Society.

Mr. Snow called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

***NOTE:** All areas "*italic*" below were submitted to the Committee in a pre-meeting memo by Mr. Short.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of minutes from previous meeting: Mr. Collier made a motion to approve the minutes for the May 13 Budget meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

2. Consider and discuss contract for services with Carthage Humane Society for fiscal 2020.

"The last communications I've had with the Humane Society was May 15, 2019 regarding if the Carthage Shelter had an estimated per-animal fee/cost. Their response was:

"A per animal contract would not help the city nor the shelter to plan for costs based off of unknown income?"

I also do not believe it is possible for the Humane Society to be able to come up with an actual per animal cost due to all the outlying factors. (is it a stray, citizens pet, size of animal, type of animal, time it stays at the shelter-as we have some that have been in the shelter for over 200 days!!!... and many others)

The Humane Society is not asking for any more funding than last year, even with knowing minimum wage will rise for the last 6 months of the contract. The Carthage Humane Society is also negotiating a better rate with Joplin than the City was able too, for feral cat intake, in preparation of the city voting to appeal the TNR ordinances...which currently would save the city 27% per animal.

I feel all this and more is the CHS doing everything to our upmost ability to be a partner with the City. Thanks

Jonathan H. Roberts

Carthage Humane Society President

So, included is the re-typed version (without typos) of the contract presented by Deborah Bell to the Committee during the Budget Hearings. The following is from last year's packet to the Committee. "Staff will do whatever the Council decided to make any contract work. Just a

reminder, the City's contract has evolved over the past 15+ years and has been adjusted due to numerous problems and changes and assurances by the City". There were a number of issues with the Agreement especially in light of the termination of the CHS Director and the feral cat program. This Agreement is on the Council agenda for first reading at the Council's June 11, 2019 meeting."

Mr. Short reviewed the proposed contract for the Carthage Humane Society noting additional changes would need to be made due to the termination of the TNR program. The contract doesn't include verbiage for an audit and negotiations are still being discussed for handling of the feral cats. Jonathan Roberts informed the committee CHS has been working with Joplin Humane Society to take the feral cats. Mr. Roberts stated they could transport up to five feral cats per month to Joplin Humane Society at a cost of \$40 which would be billed with the medical expenses. He also noted Schmidt & Associates had been hired to do the bookkeeping for CHS. Mr. Short explained the contract can be forwarded to Council and changes could be made before the second reading of the C.B. to approve the contract. Mr. Collier moved to recommend sending the existing contract to council pursuant to amended language dealing with the feral cats being added. Motion carried 4-0.

3. Consider and discuss contract for services with Carthage Chamber of Commerce for Economic Development Services for Fiscal 2020.

"The proposed agreement was sent to Chamber of Commerce. It was reported that there were "some concerns" with the Agreement. It was discussed by the Board in closed session. I have not heard what those concerns were. You may recall that changes were made to the Agreement primarily regarding reporting and documentation to the City/CWEP as a result of previous concerns. This Agreement is on the Council agenda for first reading at the Council's June 11, 2019 meeting."

Mr. Short reviewed the contract with the Chamber of Commerce noting the City and CWEP administration had determined a plan for economic development, including it as an Exhibit to the contract. The Chamber of Commerce has yet to approve the contract. Mr. Collier moved to send the contract to council pending the acceptance of the contract by the Chamber of Commerce. Motion carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Staff Reports

*"Included is the monthly **budget summary** for all funds of the City for the period ending May 31, 2019. We will briefly review this at the meeting. At this point, there does not appear to be any major concerns on a fund basis, outside of the Golf Course. Although it has improved a little, it is still struggling. Also included is the **Pooled Investment Report**. We'll go over it at the meeting. The **Sales Tax Report** for June's General Fund's 1% is included. Receipts for June, the final month of the fiscal year, showed an increase of 22% from the same month last Fiscal Year. This amounted to approximately \$40,585 more than last year's June's receipts. Overall for fiscal 2019, we had budgeted an increase of .01% from the previous year's budgeted amount for Sales*

*Tax. Year-end numbers ended up 5.2% or \$120,043 higher than last year, and 1.86% (\$44,413) higher than budget projections. The City of Carthage's **Annual Operating and Capital Budget for the Year Ending June 30, 2020** which was approved by the Committee at the last meeting, is on the Council Meeting for first reading. A hard copy will be delivered to the Committee Monday night at the meeting and the Council at the Tuesday Council meeting. Instead of including an electronic copy as part of this packet, the electronic version of the budget document is on the City's web page. Included in this packet is a copy of the **Council Bill** adopting the budget that is on the Council's agenda for first reading. The other **Council Bills** related to the budget (5) plus the Resolution releasing the assigned fund balance to the fund for operational use are included in this packet. There were a number of appropriations in fiscal 2019 for the **Fire Department** that will not be completed by the end of the fiscal year. The ones in the Fire Sales Tax fund, specifically, Update Warning Lighting, Markers and Equipment on Engine, will be re-appropriated via an adjustment in fiscal 2020. The one in the General Fund regarding the parking lot, will also have to be re-appropriated after discussions with the Baptist Church which was not able to be completed this year."*

Mr. Short reviewed the Summary Budget Report noting the golf course is still not meeting budgeted revenues but the fee increase will help. No other problems were noted. Ms. Cox reviewed the Pooled Investment Report. Currently, interest income for the fiscal year is \$176,755. Sales tax revenues showed an increase of 22% higher than the same month last fiscal year and year-to-date sales tax revenues 1.86% higher than budgeted projections.

2. **Other Business.** None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:26 PM on motion by Mr. Collier.